

CLASSIFICATION

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COUNCIL Germany Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP82-00457R012300050007-7

TOPIC Military Information from Schwerin

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EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 15 May 1952

REFERENCES

25X1A

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. On 15 April 1952, the Polke Kaserne on Ludwigslusterstrasse, Schwerin (V 54/ T 46), was occupied by about 2,500 soldiers. Some wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal or tank insignia and some wore black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia. There were a large number of uniformed women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Intensive training activity including close-order drill of 200 EM at squad level and physical exercise was noticed in the barracks yard during the period from 3 to 15 April. Three T-34 tanks, [redacted] were repaired in the barracks yard on 15 April. [redacted]

25X1

25X1C

2. On 13 April, the Krueger Kaserne on Ludwigslusterstrasse was occupied to capacity by between 2,000 and 2,500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and some with signal insignia. Intensive training activity, including close-order drill in groups with hand arms, of up to 400 soldiers was noticed daily in the barracks yard from 1 to 13 April. About 150 soldiers practiced firing at the firing range daily. On 5 April, about 70 soldiers trained with six 100-mm AT guns in the barracks yard. About 300 soldiers were seen sitting in front of the low buildings and eating their meals. On 9 April, four 100-mm AT guns were parked in front of the garages. On 13 April, caterpillar tractor [redacted] with two truck trailers left the barracks installation toward Jagenow (V 54/T 24). At about 10 a.m., while the training activity was in progress, about 300 soldiers were again seen eating. [redacted]

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3. On 13 April 1952, the south section of the Fritsch Kaserne on Johann Stellingstrasse was still occupied by a headquarters which source believed to be a division headquarters. The other sections of the installation were only partly occupied by a unit of between 3,000 and 4,000 soldiers. Some wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery, signal insignia or with the symbol of a shell; some wore black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia; and the rest wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. No training activity was noticed in the barracks yard, but a large number of troops went to and from the individual buildings. A small radio station was still located in the building at the intersection of

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25X1

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25X1A

Lischstrasse and Schlueterufer. [REDACTED]

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4. On 16 April 1952, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrowerstrasse was occupied by about 2,000 to 2,500 soldiers. Some wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery, signal, or motor transport insignia, and some wore black-bordered black epaulets with the brassard of a spade crossed with a hatchet. Uniformed women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia also occupied the installation. During the period from 31 March to 16 April, groups of about 15 soldiers were seen daily in the barracks yard receiving close-order drill with and without rifle, field training, physical training and training in singing. The Werderholz training area was heavily guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. A large number of trucks carrying BM was seen passing through the Ludwigslusterstrasse and entering the Hindenburg Kaserne.

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5. On 16 April, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Chaussee was occupied by at least 4,000 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, mostly with signal insignia; by a number of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and signal insignia and the symbol of a shell; and by troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Between 600 and 700 soldiers were seen daily falling in during the morning hours from 9 to 16 April. They practiced with and without rifles at squad level in the barracks yard, ran the obstacle course and received combat training at squad level in the terrain. On 3 April, 3 x 85-mm AA guns, 8 x 82-mm mortars and 70 new trucks were seen in the barracks yard. On 9 April, 4 x 85-mm AA guns and 4 other four-wheel guns of about 80-mm caliber with muzzle brake and a barrel which was thinner and longer than that of the 85-mm AA gun were seen in the barracks yard. A total of 20 trucks carrying personnel with black-bordered crimson epaulets, including some with signal insignia, armed with small arms and carrying field equipment, including at least four tank rifles of about 20-mm, was seen entering the installation on 15 April, coming from the direction of Ludwigslust (N 50/7 53).

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6. During the night of 13 April 1952, the engineer unit left the airfield installation in Goerries, southwest of Schwerin, for an unknown destination on an undetermined number of trucks which carried bridge equipment, 7 pontoons, 2 assault boats and 4 amphibious cars. In the morning on 14 April, all quarters of the engineer unit were vacant. Even a stationary automatic saw was removed. On 12 and 13 April, the two barbers of the installation had to crop the hair of the 250 soldiers of this unit. Source determined that this engineer unit had left for a short-term exercise from 8 to 11 April and had returned. Source believed that a higher headquarters with a general with sedan [REDACTED] and 150 officers and a signal battalion equipped with motor

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SECURITY INFORMATION

3

25X1A

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vehicle [ ] remained at the Oeserries airfield installation. \*\*

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\* [ ] Comment. The occupation of the barracks installations appears to be essentially the same as previously. [ ] Concerning the total strength of troops occupying the aforementioned installations totaling about 15,000 soldiers, see comment in the referenced report.

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\*\* [ ] Comment. It is highly likely that the unit mentioned in paragraph 6 of the present report is the corps engineer battalion of the IX Ptz Rifle Corps which moved to the engineer training site in Bittkau. On 15 April 1952, another source had reported that two trains carried an engineer unit from Schwerin to Tangerhuetten. [ ] On 13 April 1952, a source in Cardeleren determined that the 890th Indep Engr Bn of the LXXIX Ptz Rifle Corps had moved to the Bittkau training site. [ ]

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